

Toys & Collectibles Wish List

At the *Toys and Collectibles Wish List* we have been exploring many of the very cool products from hundreds of toy and collectible Websites. Whether you enjoy collecting techno-gadgets or traditional toys there is going to be something for everyone in the *Toys and Collectibles Wish List!*

Thus far it is the best Wish List year EVER! The quality, educational and developmental benefits, fun and playability factors have continued to bring a smile to our faces.

Nana Star



The Twinkle in One Grandma's Eye Inspires Book Series Nana Star

Young Readers Discover Nana's Old-Fashioned Values Via Enchanting Books, CD, Doll & Website

Stories passed from generation to generation are treasured by a few lucky souls. In Virginia, two granddaughters declared to bring their Nana's charming story character *Nana Star*, to life with a picture book series lovingly illustrated, written and published by three generations.

Grandmother Elizabeth Owens, matriarch of the family, created the character *Nana Star* out of the great love for her little grandson, Vance, with a desire to give him a sense of home wherever he was. Today, the whole family hopes to extend that same love and feelings of belonging to children everywhere, in dedication to Vance, who now dances among the stars.

"We developed our grandmother's vision of Nana Star into a sweet, very simple, very edifying picture book series," explained Elizabeth Sills, co-founder of the ee (pronounced double e) publishing and production company, the laugh-friendly company®. "The book has a more old-fashioned feel in order to promote traditional values such as kindness, generosity and compassion." Adds her sister and business partner, Elena Patrice, fondly, "At the same time we wanted to remind children, as our grandmother reminded Vance, of how special and loved they are, no matter what. We hope that the stories cultivate young imaginations and inspire character all at the same time!"

Each Nana Star book includes an accompanying CD with the storybook and a sing-along song. To make the book a little more interactive, the authors have included a spelling mistake in each book

and encourage readers to find it and send them a postcard with the correction. Children are then eligible to receive an 8x10 photo of the Nana Star costumed character and become an honorary member of the Nana Star Little Twinkles Club. The Club is expanded on its website, www.NanaStar.com, where language arts activities for emerging readers are offered.

Currently, young readers can enjoy two hardback books, *Nana Star* and second in the series, *Nana Star and the Moonman*. The books' vintage-inspired illustrations have been drawn lovingly by Elena's and Elizabeth's mother (daughter of Nana) Linda Saker. Each story features engaging characters and old-fashioned values that make Nana Star a grand new classic for children. The adventure begins on an ordinary day when something extraordinary happens to a little girl in a blue princess dress with a twinkle in her eye and a heart full of love to share. She finds a tiny star in a pile of leaves and promises to bring him home - high up in the heavens.

Granddaughters Elizabeth and Elena knew that they wanted to make a difference in the world. Before their first book went to press, they created the Nana Star Foundation. The foundation is dedicated to raising funds for terminally ill children and heightening awareness of the problems facing children attending inner-city-schools. The small company also donates hundreds of books to such causes as Toys for Tots and First Book.

The reviews from readers, sellers and parenting panels for Nana Star have been overwhelming, topped by a 2007 iParenting Media Award for its all-encompassing website which hosts the Little Twinkles Club.

Nana Star is a charming story about doing a good deed because it is the right thing to do... A delightful and upbeat picture book especially for young girls.
-- *Midwest Book Review*

It's refreshing to find a book of this caliber with a story about helping others. The story behind the story impresses me... *Nana Star* is a beautiful picture book that you and your children will cherish for years to come.
-- *Debra Gaynor, Reader Views*

The response we have received from the doll and book has been overwhelming and wonderful!... Nana Star is destined to become a true classic!
-- *Alibaba.com*

Meet Nana Star

Lucky parents and children in the Washington DC area have been able to meet Nana Star when she visits schools, hospitals and libraries to the joy of little twinkles everywhere. Nana Star (ee's own Elizabeth Sills) wears her blue princess dress and conducts storytime, singing, a language arts activity and if requested, a hug! Because community outreach is a part of ee publishing & production's corporate citizenship. Nana Star appearances are gratis. A donation to The Nana Star Foundation in lieu of an appearance fee is gratefully accepted. Visit their website, www.NanaStar.com, for details on booking a D.C. area appearance with Nana Star.

Nana Star books and toys have won numerous awards including a Moonbeam Children's Book Award, two iMedia 2008 Outstanding Product Awards, two Mr. Dad 2008 Father's Day Seals of Approval, and Dr. Toy's 100 Best Children's Products 2008.

Shop Nana Star

The following items are currently in stock and available by going online at www.NanaStar.com; Amazon.com; or calling 1-877-MY-NANASTAR.

Nana Star - First in a series, this book introduces Nana Star and the lost baby she stumbles upon, making an ordinary day extraordinary. Book comes with bonus audio CD that includes *The Nana Star Song* performed by Nashville singer/songwriter Tricia Walker.

Available for purchase online at [Amazon](#).

Nana Star and the Moonman - Second in a series, a comforting message about friendship and faith shines through this book for young readers who may not like the dark or are feeling lonely. The enclosed bonus CD includes *The Moonman* performed by Chloe Dolandis.

Available for purchase online at [Amazon](#).

Nana Star Gift Set

All boxed up for gift giving, a combination of hardcover book, and a soft Nana Star doll or Moonman plush.

Nana Star Plushies

Moonman Lovey - A soft character doll whose head glows like the light of the moon and plays music.

Nana Star - A plush character doll carrying Baby Star on a branch, just like in the story.

About laugh-friendly company®

Sisters Elizabeth Sills and Elena Patrice trademarked their partnership the "laugh-friendly company" to reflect their philosophy of business and life. "We have been shushed our entire lives and wanted a place where we could be free to laugh out loud if we wanted," said Elizabeth. The pair said they want to be able to laugh at both the bad and the good as it comes along.

They believe that the simple story of Nana Star will be a success in today's society where it is hard for children to find appropriate role models. They also believe that parents will welcome a return to simpler, nostalgic times. "Marketing is very commercialized," said Patrice, "and children are introduced to characters who are very mature." The goal of the publishing is to help families recapture calmer times in a hectic world.

For more information on the business, visit www.laughfriendly.com, or to learn about its Nana Star products, click on www.NanaStar.com.

Media resources courtesy of Media resources courtesy of [KidStuff Public Relations](#).